

Minutes of COA Board Meeting – September 14, 2016

Board Members present: Pat Gold, Mary Keenan, Dorothy Jean Brown, Linda Moffitt, Alice Wadden, Bertha Anderson

Board Members excused: Burt Greenberg, Carol Airasian

Staff Members present: Anne-Marie Gagnon, Director; Debbie Dunn, Program Coordinator

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

1. Minutes

Minutes from the July meeting were not complete so they will be reviewed at the October meeting.

2. Financial Statements

Debbie Dunn gave an overview of expenditures to date. The first quarter of the year looks to be on target at this point. Debbie and Anne-Marie are working to submit the Executive Office of Elder Affairs' (EOEA) Grant for the yearly COA allocation.

3. Introductions

Pat Gold introduced the new Director of Senior Services, Anne-Marie Gagnon, to the Board and welcomed her to the group. Anne-Marie expressed her thanks and enthusiasm for her new position. Anne-Marie is continuing on her "listening and learning journey" as she reviews the Center's programs and services, daily operations, and suggestions by seniors, volunteers and instructors at the Center.

Anne-Marie announced that the new Senior Shuttle driver, Jim Cunningham has started and is learning the bus and the routes. Jim is a Watertown resident.

4. Fall Programming

Anne-Marie provided an overview of fall programs. We are starting a new Tuesday offering "Coffee with the Chief." Chief Lawn will be coming to the Center on alternate Tuesday mornings to share happenings around Town and to hear resident concerns. Springwell will be coming to hold a Focus Group on priorities for seniors who wish to remain living at home with services. The League of Women Voters will present highlights of the election year journey. We are still working on finding a new accompanist for the Mellowtones group. The previous accompanist retired to the West Coast.

Election Day, November 8: The Senior Center will be offering taxi rides for seniors who need to get to the polls. They need to contact us in advance. The Friends of the COA will be holding an Election Day Book Sale at the Senior Center that day.

Anne-Marie announced that the Property Tax Work Off Program will be advertised soon. The program is looking to support 10 seniors with up to 68 hours of office work in a town department to earn a \$750 homeowner property tax deduction.

5. Faire on the Square: Pat asked for volunteers for the September 24 event at Saltonstall Park. Carol, Mary, Alice, Dorothy Jean and Pat committed to volunteering.

6. New Business:

Debbie expressed concern over lack of participation in the upcoming Bourne Scallop Festival Trip. Debbie will work with Anne-Marie to explore new trip offerings to increase participation and enthusiasm for long distance trips.

Anne-Marie is working with the Town's Information Technology Department to have Wi-Fi installed in the building.

Alice Wadden announced the Social Justice Ministry Refugees event on October 2, 2016.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Submitted by Anne-Marie Gagnon, Director of Senior Services